



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 8TH ARMY
UNIT #15236
APO AP 96205-5236

EACG

27 APR 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR All 8th Army Assigned Soldiers and Civilians

SUBJECT: 8th Army Command Policy Letter #41—Investigations

1. Reference. AR 15-6, Procedures for Investigating Officers and Boards of Officers, 2 Oct 06.

2. Purpose. Investigations will be conducted when there is a potential violation of the UCMJ, when required by regulation, or when facts need to be discovered in order to identify system weaknesses and improve operations.

3. Background. Investigations provide Commanders and Senior Leaders with a valuable tool for objectively determining the facts of a situation and preserving evidence. They must be done to standard and they must be done in a timely fashion. Investigations must be properly scoped and documented. Investigations must be conducted in a credible and transparent manner that enforces accountability and institutional learning. This includes paying close attention to the appointment of the right Investigating Officer at the start, and ensuring that the report is comprehensive, sets the incident in proper context, recommends measures to prevent recurrence, and considers whether and at what level supervisory responsibility applies.

a. Commanders will make sure the purpose and scope of the investigation is both appropriate and clear in their appointing memorandum and will ensure their Investigating Officers know and adhere to the procedures in AR 15-6. SJA offices will assist Commanders in ensuring investigations are done to standard. Results of any investigation may have a significant impact on Soldiers, policies, or procedures, and are used as an historical record. Accordingly, Commanders must select the best qualified persons for the duty. Commanders, do not simply pick the next person on your duty roster; carefully select the investigating officer based on their education, training, experience, length of service, and temperament.

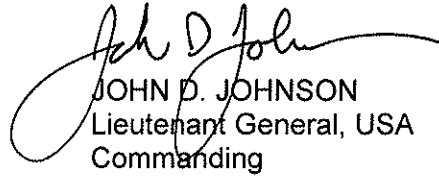
b. Investigating Officers must comply with the instructions of the appointing authority to ascertain and consider the evidence on all sides of the issue. Investigating Officers must be both thorough and impartial, and make and report objective findings and recommendations substantiated by the facts. Those facts must be logically related to the exhibits attached to the report. Investigating Officers must also finish their investigation in a timely matter.

c. Findings and recommendations, if approved by the Commander, must be acted upon. An investigation serves no purpose if the information gathered is not used to improve our operations or hold personnel accountable for their conduct. Finally, all reports of investigations will be properly kept in accordance with applicable regulations, and lessons learned from the investigations must be distributed to appropriate personnel to improve operations.

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5, Proponent. The 8th Army Staff Judge Advocate is the proponent for this policy. The POC can be contacted at commercial 011-822-7918-4464 or DSN 315-738-4464.



JOHN D. JOHNSON
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding